

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification by addition of the Abstract attached hereto.

Abstract

Isolated and purified proteins and nucleic acids which modulate TGF- β biological activity, including TGF- β signal transduction. Particularly, a novel serine-threonine kinase receptors associated protein (STRAP) and cDNA encoding the same are disclosed. Recombinant host cells, recombinant nucleic acids and recombinant proteins are also disclosed, along with methods of producing each. Isolated and purified antibodies to STRAP, and methods of producing the same, are also disclosed. STRAP is characterized as having TGF- β modulating activity. Thus, therapeutic methods involving this activity are also disclosed.